arrangements for acceptance of cash against credit card dues for the following reasons:

(i) Delay involved in remitting the amount received by the branches to Gurgaon.

(ii) Reluctance of the cardholders to pay the Bank charges to remit the money to Gurgaon.

(iii) Ensure that the dues are remitted by the cardholders only.

SBICPSL have installed cheque collection boxes at major branches of SBI at all the 41 centres, where the Credit cards are issued and the cardholders can deposit cheques drawn on any bank participating in clearing in any of the 41 centres. The cardholders are given credit from the date of receipt of the cheque for full value of the cheque without any charges even though cheques are realised later. The cardholder is spared the work of drawing cash from his account and deposit in the cash counter of the bank.

(c) and (d) As the existing facility is more beneficial and convenient to card holders, the need for introducing the facility of accepting cash deposits for credit card dues at branches of SBI is not felt.

Representation of Indian Sugar Mills Association

4049. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Sugar Mills Association and other organizations are demanding for retaining tax on sugar, excise duty, central cess on sugar and excise duty on molasses for a short period of one year in the light of the pathetic condition in which the sugar industry is passing;

(b) if so, the details of the representation made by ISMA; and

(c) the action taken by Government on their request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) had submitted a memorandum to the Government. The memorandum, *inter alia,* requested that keeping in view the health of the sugar industry, sugar mills may be allowed to retain, for a period of two years, the excise duties on sugar and molasses as well as central cess.

(c) The request of the Association was examined and it had not been found feasible to accede to the same.